Paul Revere’s 1770 etching of the Boston Massacre

Is this an accurate portrayal?



Some things to think about:

1. The attack took place in the evening. Does it look like evening?
2. Crispus Attucks, an African American Freeman was the first killed in the melee. Does anyone look black?
3. The British are firing a formal volley of muskets into the crowd. The reality is that is that the colonists were drunk and disorderly and belligerent and British were not as formally organized as the image suggests.
4. Four died and several were wounded so there was undoubtedly blood around the area, but notice how the victims are portrayed as so plainly and obviously bleeding out.

Would a more accurate portrayal of the event resulted in Revere’s desired effect of rousing the other colonies to the Revolutionary cause?